

IDEA 0528
Copy 3 of 2

31 Oct 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Chief, DPD
SUBJECT: Inflight Refueling Proficiency Training
25X1A REFERENCE: [redacted] 8876 (IN 20473)

25X1A 1. Referenced message gives [redacted] position as a minimum requirement to maintain proficiency, however, it does not take into consideration the program envisioned by Special Projects Branch for development of tactical doctrine. Additionally, basing requirements on minimums fail to consider aborted missions either by tanker or U-2 aircraft. It is my understanding that in the scheduling procedure employed by SAC an aborted mission is a lost mission and therefore can not be picked up at a later date.

2. For positive control and for the precise, accurate, detailed planning required to use the IFR capability on an operational mission it is necessary that we have standardized procedures and tactical doctrine. It was intended in the requirements established in proposed memorandum, same subject, that adequate tanker support would be available to provide a concentrated program to finalize planning and operational factors. The continuing program will provide for proficiency training as well as practice profile missions utilizing two refuelings.

25X1A 3. With the return of the I. P. from [redacted] and the addition of [redacted] pilots a total of nine aircrew members will be assigned. Since IFR configured aircraft have been increased to three all can be supported provided adequate tanker support is available.

4. In summary I concur with the intent to operate with minimum tanker support, however, I recommend that requirements in the proposed memorandum (IDEA 0518) be established as minimum.

WJ - 74998

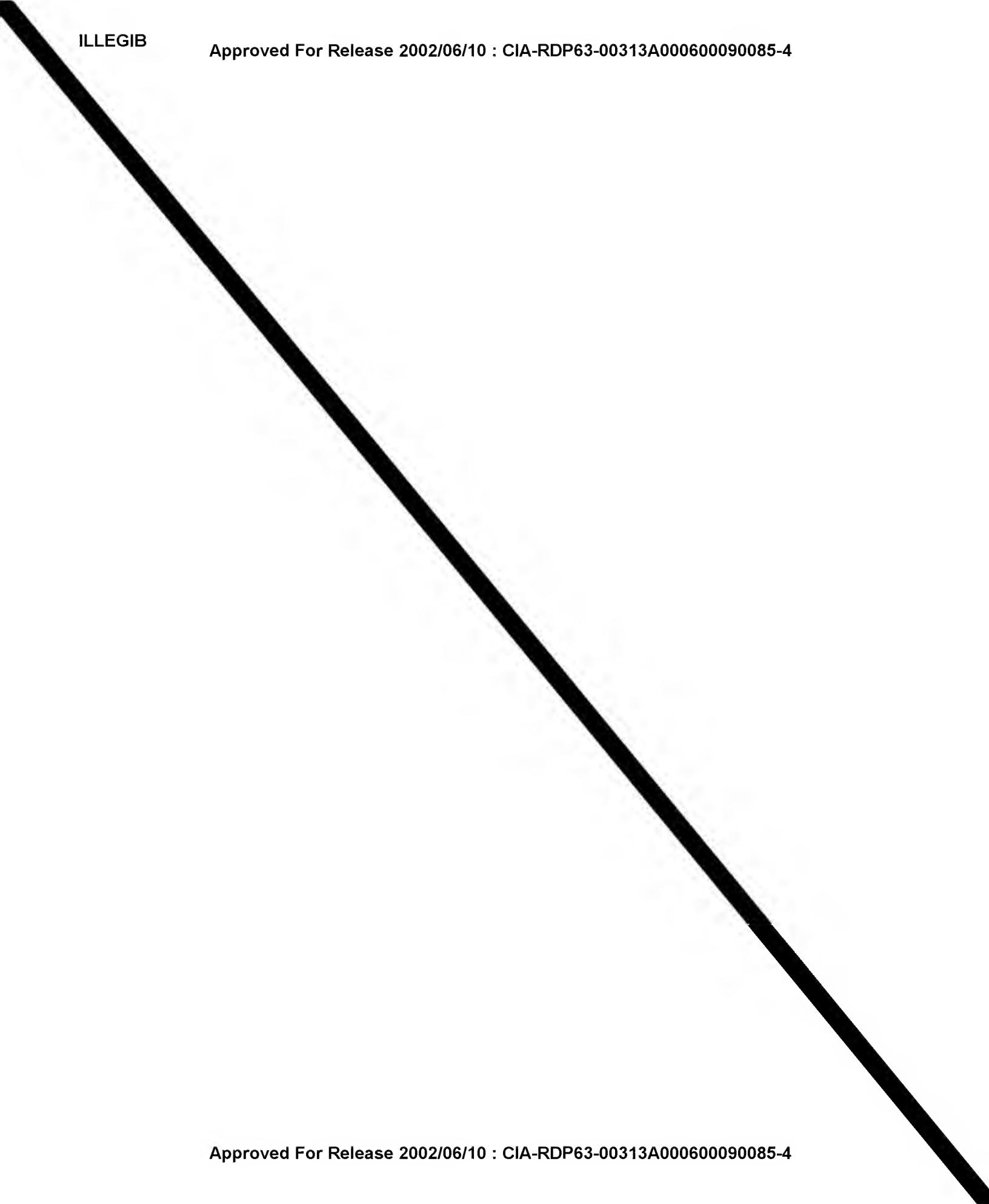
RELEASER:

25X1A DPD/SBB/[redacted] (S3 Oct 61)

SIGNED

Chief, [redacted]

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